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WESTERN AUSTRALIA

15 JUN 1956

REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL, 1956

Issued by the Government Statistician (Mr. R. J. Little), Perth

1st June, 1956

This report gives particulars relative to the following items:-

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POPULATION ESTIMATES

Whole State at 31st December, 1955 -

Males - 345,487

Females - 325,263

Persons - 670,750

Metropolitan Area at 31st December, 1955 -

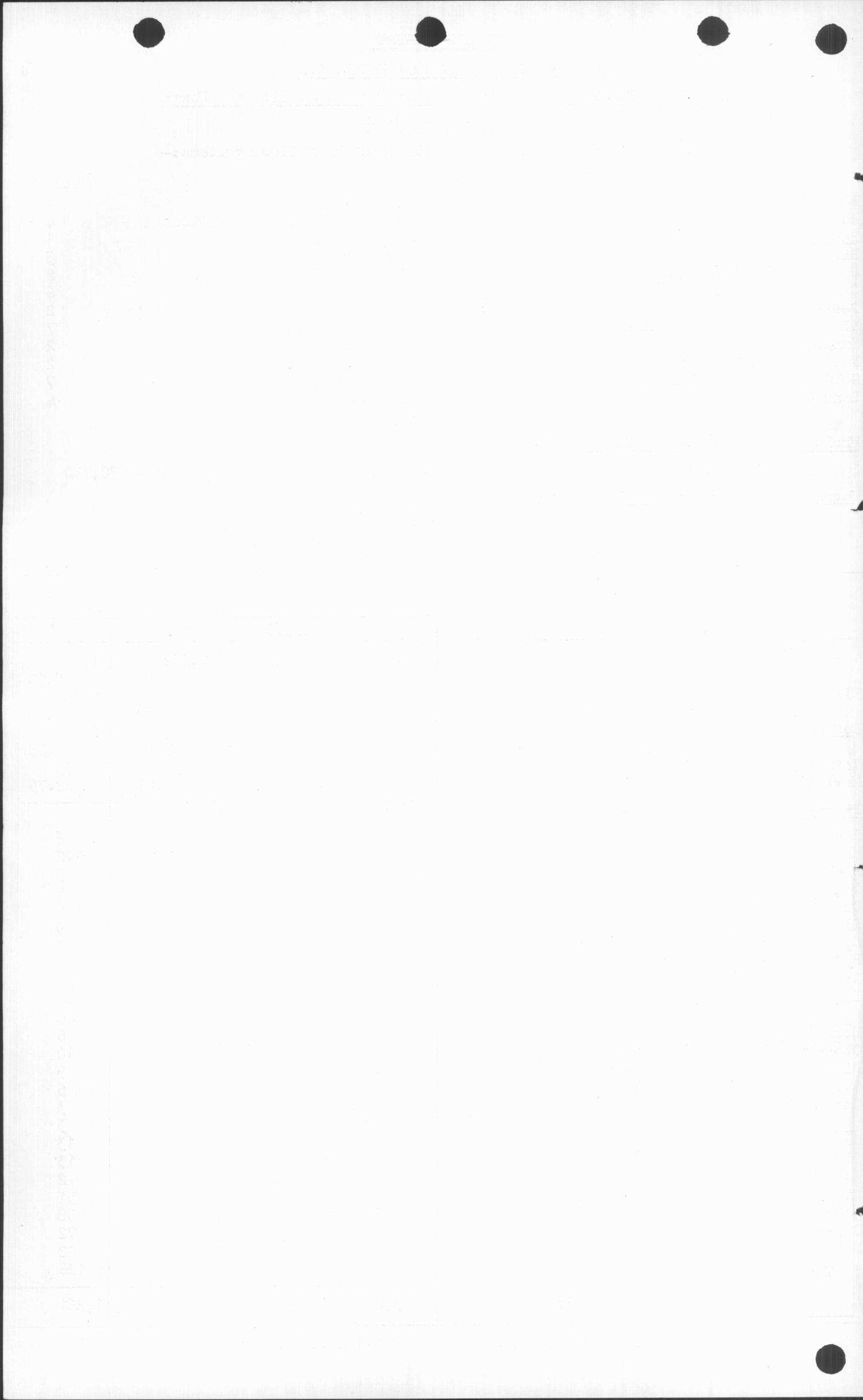
Persons - 365,000

MARRIAGES, BIRTHS AND DEATHS - WESTERN AUSTRALIA

	MARCH		Three Months ended MARCH	
	1956	1955	1956	1955
Marriages - Number	407	443	1,372	1,429
* Rate per 1000 of Population	7.12	8.00	8.20	8.90
Births - Number	1,469	1,576	4,253	4,088
* Rate per 1000 of Population	25.69	28.45	25.42	25.46
Deaths - Number	378	530	1,314	1,261
* Rate per 1000 of Population	6.61	9.57	7.85	7.85
Infant - Number	30	44	97	93
Mortality * Rate per 1000 Live Births	20.42	27.92	22.81	22.75
<u>PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATH</u>				
Tuberculosis	1	3	5	8
Malignant neoplasms	61	69	210	172
Diabetes mellitus	3	2	21	13
Diseases of blood, etc.	1	3	2	4
Cerebral haemorrhage, etc.	48	72	168	156
Diseases of the heart	101	159	347	369
Hypertension with heart disease	8	18	33	52
Hypertensive disease without mention of heart	6	11	18	22
Arteriosclerosis	7	9	32	28
Influenza	-	-	1	-
Pneumonia	14	16	46	44
Bronchitis	4	2	9	6
Other respiratory disease	4	4	10	10
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	3	5	9
Gastro-enteritis and colitis	1	1	5	5
Chronic enteritis and ulcerative colitis	-	3	1	3
Cirrhosis of the liver	3	2	8	3
Nephritis and nephrosis	6	8	21	13
Disease of the prostate	7	8	17	13
Maternal causes	1	1	3	2
Disease of early infancy	18	20	52	51
Motor Vehicle Accidents	17	15	54	58
Other Accidents	23	37	75	72
Suicide	9	5	30	22
All other causes	34	59	141	126
Total:	378	530	1,314	1,261

* Equivalent Annual Rate.

† Deaths under one year.



LAND SETTLEMENT

Land taken up under conditional alienation during the four months ended April, 1956, totalled 293,713 acres, an increase of 76,113 acres on the corresponding period last year. Pastoral, special and miscellaneous leases registered amounted to 2,133,258 acres, an increase of 497,368.

STATE GOVERNMENT CONSOLIDATED REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE

Item	APRIL		Ten Months ended APRIL	
	1956	1955	1956	1955
Revenue				
Revenue per Head of Population	4,535,560	3,922,983	39,147,206	35,634,941
Expenditure	6. 14. 0	6. 0. 0	58. 12. 1	55. 1. 1
Expenditure per Head of Population	4,217,852	3,854,648	42,357,298	36,906,083
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SAVINGS BANKS

Depositors' Balances at the end of April, 1956, amounted to £55,612,946 or £82.0.6 per head of population as against £52,489,544 or £80.3.5 per head at the end of April, 1955. Figures exclude operations of the Rural and Industries Bank of W.A.

BANK CLEARANCES

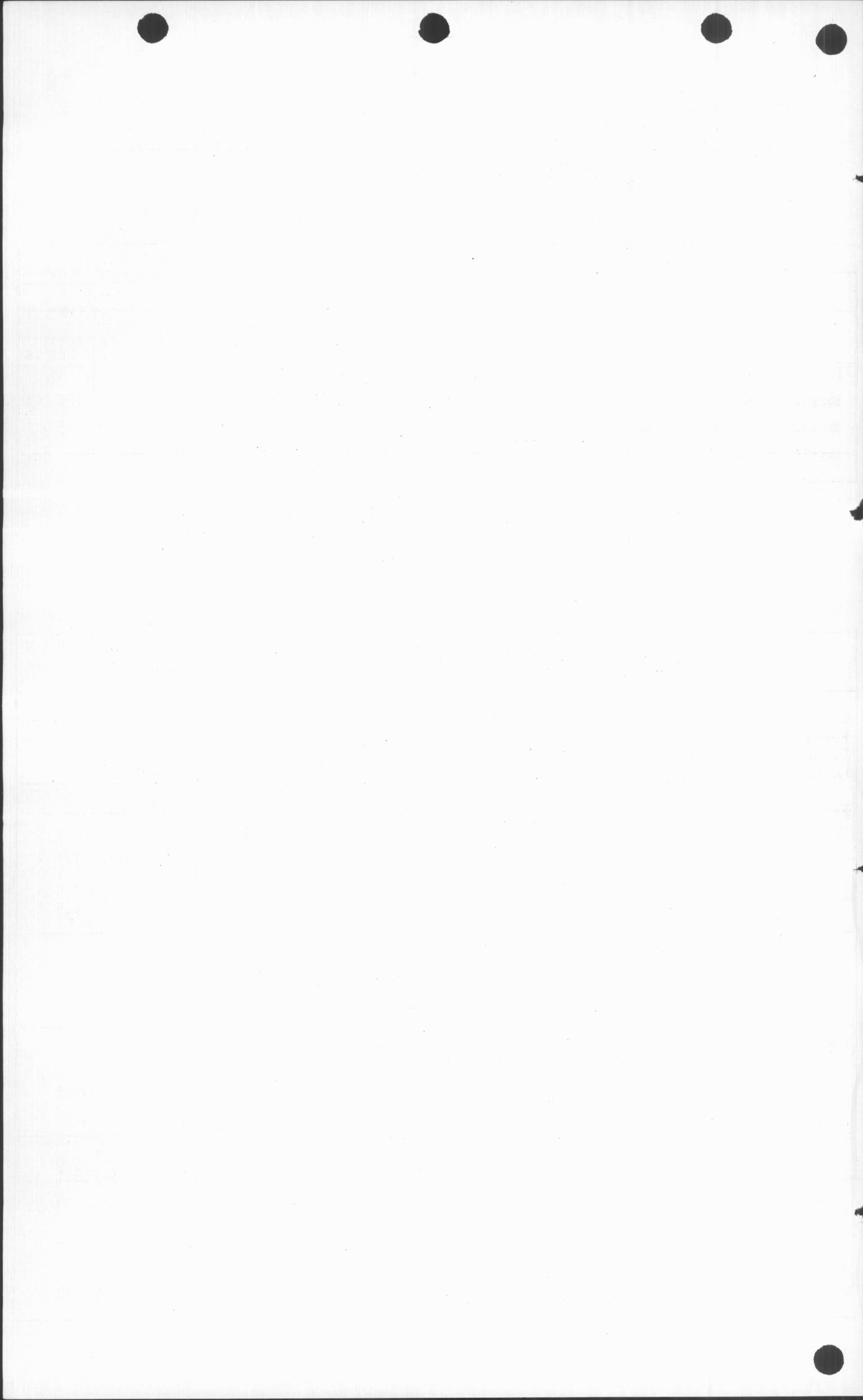
The average weekly clearance for four weeks ended 25th April, 1956, amounted to £14,747,335 compared with £13,766,112 for the corresponding period last year.

REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS

Registrations effected at the Office of Land Titles and Deeds	APRIL		Ten Months ended APRIL	
	1956	1955	1956	1955
Transfers	No. 1,315	£. 2,024,625	1,479	15,496
Mortgages	No. 855	£. 1,563,827	2,520,330	23,044,414
Discharges of Mortgages	No. 730	£. No.	1,134	10,398
			2,457,394	20,701,411
			739	7,856

SALES TAX: SALES OF TAXABLE AND EXEMPT GOODS
AND TAX COLLECTED

Period of Receipt of Returns	Taxable Goods		Sales of Exempt Goods	Tax Collected
	Sales in respect of which Tax is Payable (Net)	Sales in respect of which Tax is NOT Payable (Gross)		
April, 1956	£. 3,445,365	£. 1,991,526	£. 8,377,663	£. 387,821
April, 1955	3,338,682	2,161,772	9,222,367	390,499
Ten months ended April, 1956	38,282,288	23,309,879	93,710,742	4,577,397
Ten months ended April, 1955	37,609,294	20,562,902	90,430,376	4,724,178



COMPANIES REGISTERED

174 Local Companies with a nominal capital of £9,630,002 and 77 Foreign Companies were registered during the ten months ended April, 1956. Registrations for the corresponding period last year comprised 187 Local Companies with a nominal capital of £24,459,501 and 87 Foreign Companies.

BANKRUPTCY

Item	Ten Months ended APRIL					
	1956			1955		
	No.	Liabilities	Assets	No.	Liabilities	Assets
Sequestration Orders	55	116,797	38,246	47	100,415	43,119
Deeds of Assignment (a)	49	257,341	259,905	25	111,003	132,941
Deeds of Arrangement	3	15,681	10,738	1	1,223	274

(a) Includes Compositions and Schemes of Arrangement.

TRANSPORT

The operations of the State Government Railways, open for General and Passenger traffic, were as follows:-

Item	MARCH		Nine Months ended MARCH	
	1956	1955	1956	1955
Gross Earnings (a) £.	1,123,900	1,160,900	9,619,700	9,261,900
Workings Expenses (a) £.	1,239,301	1,229,481	11,186,641	10,133,278
Train Miles Run No.	675,887	694,287	6,126,611	5,740,979
Motor Bus Miles Run No.	(b) 102,618	(b) 116,540	(c) 1,015,398	(c) 1,114,149
<u>Passenger Journeys</u> -				
Train	No.	904,580	869,632	9,055,521
Motor Bus	No.	25,320	28,940	235,924
<u>Tonnage Carried</u> -				
Paying Goods		303,936	322,867	2,544,668
Livestock		8,635	9,053	110,416
Departmental (Free Freight)		62,107	83,378	577,456
Total:		374,678	415,298	3,232,540
<u>Net Ton Mileage of</u> -				
Paying Goods		50,509,518	51,331,097	427,128,663
Livestock		1,143,712	1,142,182	14,559,435
Departmental (Free Freight)		6,753,358	8,321,543	64,039,707
Total:		58,406,588	60,794,822	498,548,980

(a) Includes operations of the Railway Road Service.

(b) Four weeks ended 3rd March.

(c) Period ended 3rd March.

* Figures liable to revision.

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MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS

(1) NEW VEHICLES REGISTERED

Period	Metropolitan Traffic Area				Entire State *			
	Cars (including Hire Cars)	Wagons, Vans, Utilities	Buses	Motor Cycles	Cars (including Hire Cars)	Wagons, Vans, Utilities	Buses	Motor Cycles
Year 1951	4,263	2,088	51	1,886	7,921	5,792	101	3,193
Year 1952	4,088	2,006	74	1,121	8,078	5,549	115	1,939
Year 1953	4,460	1,869	57	746	8,166	5,071	76	1,239
Year 1954	6,499	2,487	34	736	11,667	6,083	70	1,267
Year 1955	6,852	2,533	18	701	11,612	5,606	59	1,130
<u>1956 -</u>								
January	419	167	-	63	742	390	4	94
February	544	186	3	76	903	449	18	107
March	567	165	1	86	939	419	5	123

(2) MOTOR VEHICLES IN USE (EFFECTIVE REGISTRATIONS)

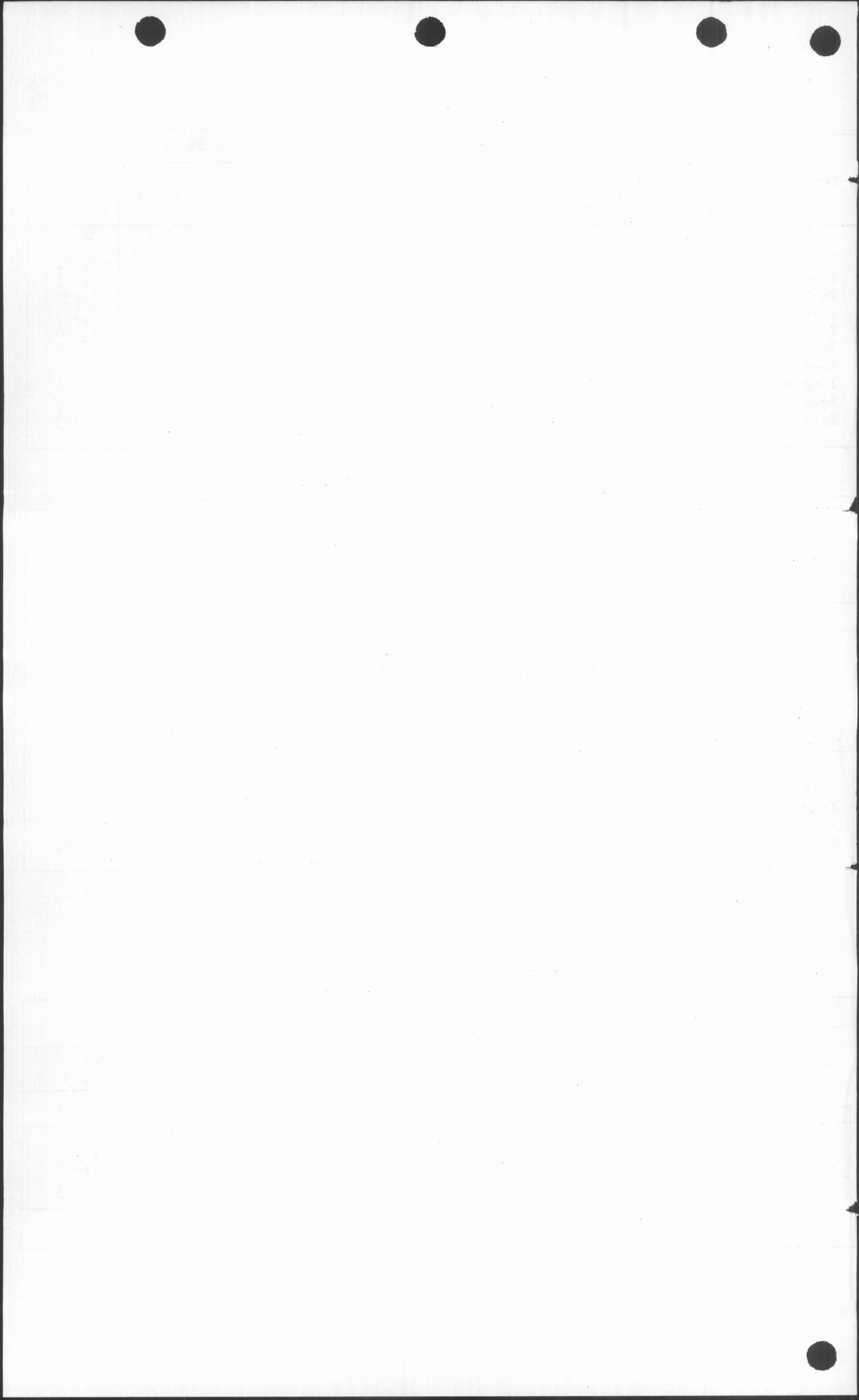
Date (as at end of Month)	Metropolitan Traffic Area				Entire State *			
	Cars (including Hire Cars)	Wagons, Vans, Utilities	Buses	Motor Cycles	Cars (including Hire Cars)	Wagons, Vans, Utilities	Buses	Motor Cycles
<u>1954 -</u>	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
June	47,819	20,400	593	9,692	78,321	59,248	1,124	15,243
December	52,072	21,721	590	9,713	84,963	60,905	1,143	14,894
<u>1955 -</u>								
June	55,720	22,694	555	9,605	90,255	62,753	1,138	14,662
December	59,374	23,666	562	9,342	95,014	63,128	1,148	14,041
<u>1956 -</u>								
January	59,949	23,869	562	9,374	94,382	61,386	1,063	13,310
February	60,256	23,908	564	9,371	95,852	62,733	1,171	13,660
March	60,621	23,895	565	9,345	96,908	63,432	1,181	13,857

* Revised to include Commonwealth-owned vehicles (exclusive of Defence Services).

TRADE OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA (INTERSTATE AND OVERSEA)

Expressed in terms of Australian Currency

Item	IMPORTS				EXPORTS (Including Ships' Stores)			
	MARCH		9 Months ended MARCH		MARCH		9 Months ended MARCH	
	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956	1955
Oversea	£,000	£,000	£,000	£,000	£,000	£,000	£,000	£,000
Interstate	3,343	4,529	34,946	36,456	8,667	8,201	54,976	53,910
Total:	6,681	6,184	61,532	67,601	3,039	2,488	27,241	16,003
	10,024	10,713	96,478	104,057	11,706	10,689	82,217	69,913



BUILDING ACTIVITY
(1) NEW BUILDINGS COMPLETED.

Period	Dwellings				Factories		Other		Total	
	Owner-Built		By Contractors etc. (a)							
	No.	Value	No.	Value	No.	Value	No.	Value	No.	Value
Year 1946	55	32	1,316	1,221	52	82	116	192	1,568	1,527
Year 1947	165	109	2,245	2,380	37	64	164	327	2,611	2,880
Year 1948	514	346	2,544	3,041	49	160	268	431	3,375	3,978
Year 1949	825	693	2,485	3,476	57	215	317	657	3,634	5,041
Year 1950	1,313	1,365	3,331	4,727	41	263	428	651	5,113	7,006
Year 1951	1,913	2,835	4,137	6,969	40	459	433	986	6,523	11,249
Year 1952	2,883	5,824	4,946	11,201	63	667	604	2,424	8,496	19,934
Year 1953	2,988	7,219	4,839	12,624	84	817	714	3,657	8,625	24,317
Year 1954	3,127	8,255	5,044	13,491	111	1,544	844	5,015	9,126	28,505
Year 1955	2,788	8,194	6,422	18,091	129	3,405	933	6,900	10,272	36,590
<u>1956 -</u>										
March Qr.	544	1,678	1,276	3,549	28	349	232	1,976	2,080	7,552

(a) Comprises Government Day Labour as well as Private Contractor Operations and includes Shop Dwellings, Flats and Other Residential excluded from Table (2) hereunder.

(2) HOUSE CONSTRUCTION
(Includes Owner-Built Homes)

Period	Houses Completed - Classified According to Materials of Outer Walls									
	Brick, Stone, Concrete, etc.		Wood or Mainly Wood		Fibro-Cement or Mainly Fibro-Cement		Other		Total	
	No.	Value	No.	Value	No.	Value	No.	Value	No.	Value
Year 1946	578	640	186	140	373	296	227	172	1,304	1,248
Year 1947	1,114	1,365	257	196	966	862	62	47	2,399	2,470
Year 1948	1,252	1,715	326	243	1,436	1,343	29	22	3,043	3,534
Year 1949	1,449	2,235	228	191	1,571	1,649	42	43	3,290	4,118
Year 1950	1,709	2,882	337	311	2,262	2,572	55	48	4,363	5,813
Year 1951	2,155	4,560	453	525	2,933	4,241	190	218	5,731	9,544
Year 1952	3,006	8,097	745	1,609	3,844	6,678	135	263	7,730	16,647
Year 1953	2,676	8,417	976	2,657	3,966	8,277	24	54	7,642	19,405
Year 1954	2,865	9,767	214	530	4,823	10,833	4	4	7,906	21,134
Year 1955	3,268	11,775	225	621	5,271	12,614	8	17	8,772	25,027
<u>1956 -</u>										
March Qr.	737	2,657	32	91	915	2,156	-	-	1,684	4,904

GOLD PRODUCTION

Item	APRIL		4 Months ended APRIL	
	1956	1955	1956	1955
<u>GOLD</u>				
Quantity	Fine ozs.	60,415	62,211	288,385
Value (Aust. Currency)*	£.	943,985	972,044	4,506,001
Dividends reported by Gold Mining Companies	£.	-	-	221,875
				221,875

* Excludes premiums on gold sold for industrial purposes.

RETAIL PRICES INDEX NUMBERS

(Base of Each Series: Weighted Average of Six Capitals for 1923/27 = 1000)

Centre	Food and Groceries				"C" Series			
	MARCH Quarter		Twelve Months ended MARCH		MARCH Quarter		Twelve Months ended MARCH	
	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956	1955
Metropolitan Area	2937	2819	2898	2824	2605	2514	2577	2501
Kalgoorlie-Boulder	3080	2981	3074	2942	2515	2452	2508	2437
Northam	2932	2885	2936	2854	2521	2481	2518	2447
Bunbury	2980	2866	2986	2862	2588	2519	2586	2483
Geraldton	2989	2896	2988	2890	2763	2643	2732	2620
Collie	3005	2914	2999	2896	2390	2326	2381	2314

ESTIMATED TOTAL EMPLOYMENT
(Excluding Rural and Private Domestic)

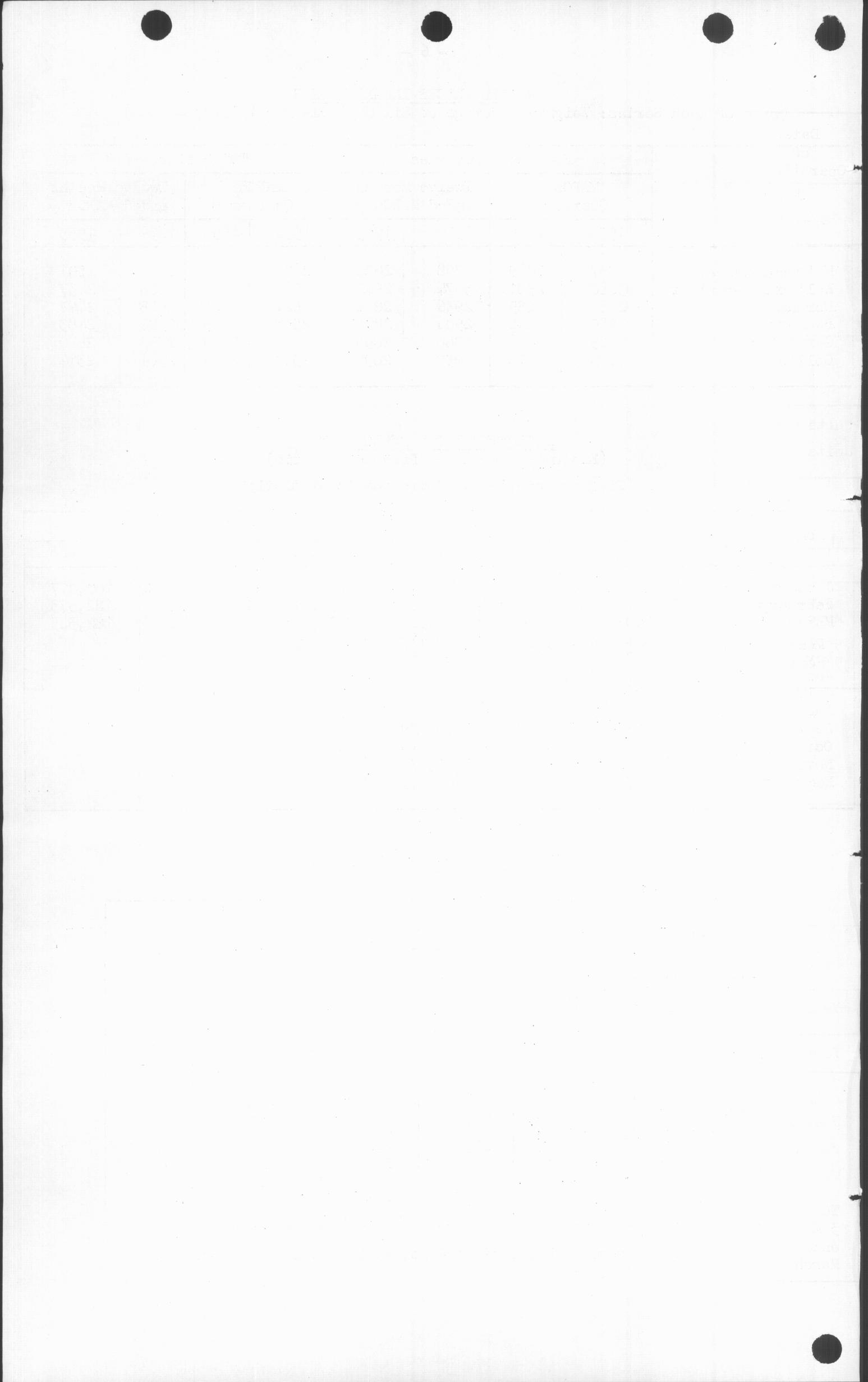
Figures supplied by Commonwealth Statistician

Month	1955			1956		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
January	135,624	42,794	178,418	136,330	43,687	180,017
February	135,417	43,730	179,147	137,946	44,627	182,573
March	136,290	44,016	180,306	137,563	44,762	182,325
April	136,524	43,893	180,417			
May	136,357	43,878	180,235			
June	136,347	43,880	180,227			
July	135,696	43,901	179,597			
August	135,857	43,758	179,615			
September	136,616	43,913	180,529			
October	136,291	43,924	180,215			
November	136,970	44,401	181,371			
December	137,537	44,536	182,073			

INDEX OF FACTORY EMPLOYMENT (a)

Month	Factories (Base: 1928/29 (19,799 Employees = 100))				
	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956
January	214	213	226	237	241
February	216	217	228	240	242
March	216	220	231	242	238
April	215	221	230	243	
May	214	222	231	242	
June	211	220	230	239	
July	211	221	230	237	
August	212	221	230	238	
September	211	223	232	240	
October	212	224	233	240	
November	213	227	234	242	
December	213	227	233	242	

(a) Figures subsequent to June, 1955, are preliminary.



STATE BASIC WAGE

Date of Operation	Metropolitan Area		South-West Land Division		Goldfields and Rest of State	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
23/4/56	£. s. d. 12. 17. 1	£. s. d. 8. 7. 1	£. s. d. 12. 13. 11	£. s. d. 8. 5. 0	£. s. d. 12. 15. 11	£. s. d. 8. 6. 4

ELECTRICITY SUPPLY - METROPOLITAN AREA
(Generated by W.A. Government Power Stations)

Particulars	APRIL		Ten Months ended APRIL	
	1956	1955	1956	1955
Units Generated (1000 K.W.H.)	41,007	37,403	426,229	378,054
Units Sent Out (1000 K.W.H.)	37,010	33,191	383,492	338,406

LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTERINGS IN PRINCIPAL ESTABLISHMENTS

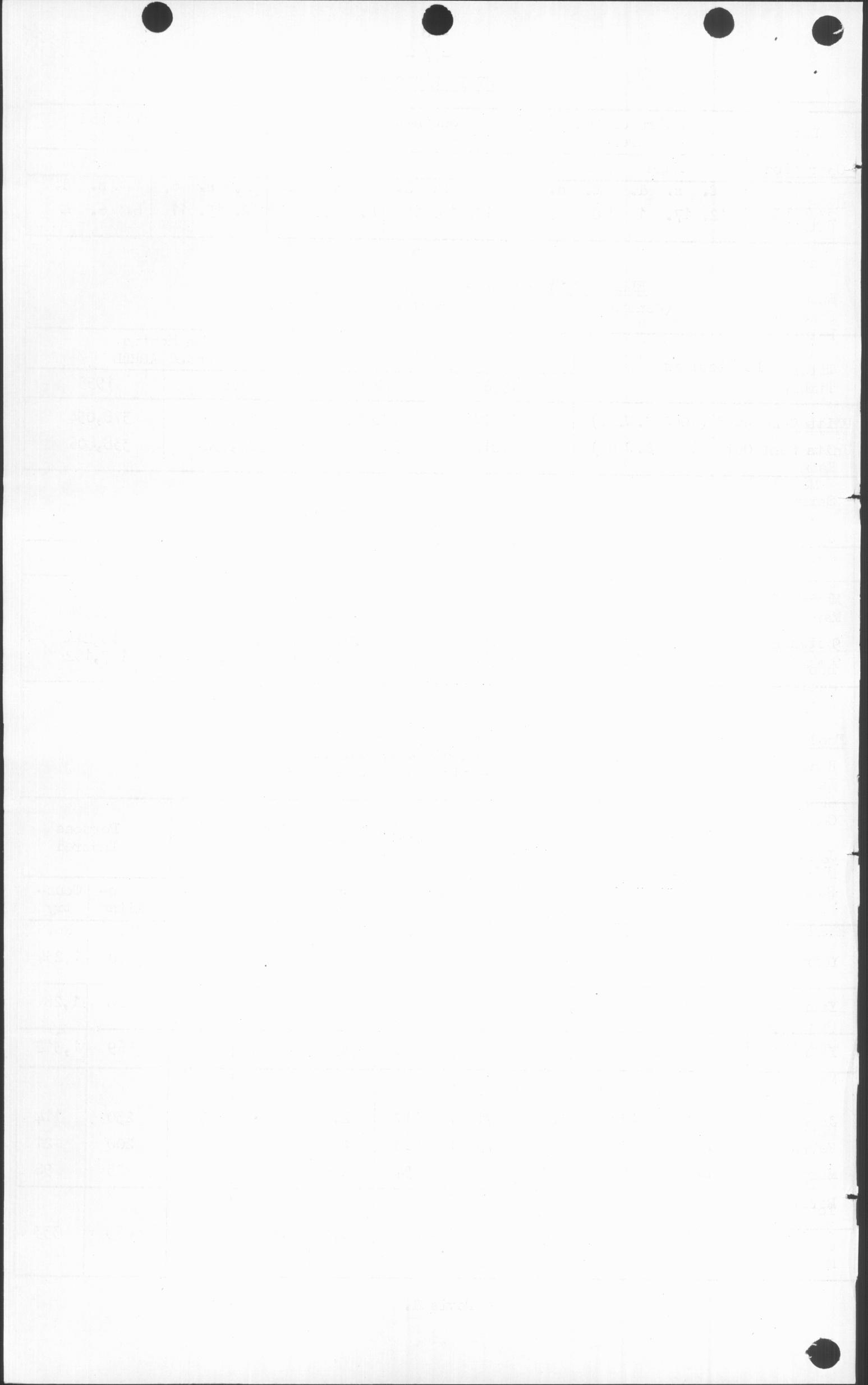
Period	Cattle	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
March, 1956	9,452	224	72,157	9,784
March, 1955	8,694	214	82,687	10,974
9 Months ended March, 1956	92,944	3,048	1,050,981	115,244
9 Months ended March, 1955	90,406	3,620	937,446	127,192

ROAD TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS

(Note - Excludes non-casualty accidents where damage was estimated to be £10 or less)

Period	Non-Casualty Accidents (Damage over £10)		Casualty Accidents		Total Accidents Reported		Persons Killed		Persons Injured	
	Metro- politan	Coun- try	Metro- politan	Coun- try	Metro- politan	Coun- try	Metro- politan	Coun- try	Metro- politan	Coun- try
Year 1953	4,074	1,463	2,024	882	6,098	2,345	99	93	2,430	1,234
Year 1954	5,072	1,824	2,415	874	7,487	2,698	96	89	3,028	1,281
Year 1955	5,878	2,029	2,237	921	8,115	2,950	110	89	2,669	1,318
<u>1956 -</u>										
January *	435	172	182	71	617	243	6	7	230	114
February *	406	134	157	73	563	207	11	5	200	121
March	463	156	191	73	654	229	11	9	225	98
Total, 3 Months ended March	1,304	462	530	217	1,834	679	28	21	655	333

* Revised.



ITEMS OF FACTORY PRODUCTION (SUBJECT TO REVISION)

Item	Unit	APRIL		Ten Months ended APRIL	
		1956	1955	1956	1955
<u>Building Materials, etc.</u>					
Bath Heaters - solid fuel	no.	579	762	5,872	6,470
Bricks (in terms of standard size) - Cement	'000	190	534	3,136	9,196
- Clay	'000	6,951	8,268	81,430	84,801
Enamels	gal.	4,983	2,626	62,774	32,108
Fibrous Plaster Sheets	'000 sq.yd.	124	209	1,675	2,098
Paints (Ready Mixed) Excluding Water Paints	gal.	19,106	16,255	170,052	190,669
Tiles, roofing - Cement	'000	433	822	6,789	8,977
Timber, Sawn	'000 sup.ft.	(a) 18,639	(a) 20,987	(b) 173,980	(b) 169,395
<u>Clothing</u>					
Cardigans and Pullovers	doz.	1,007	1,303	8,371	9,219
Raincoats (inc. Oilskins)					
Men's and Boys'	no.	316	1,681	4,423	20,262
Shirts (all types) Men's and Boys'	doz.	1,871	3,047	35,956	44,290
Sports Coats - Men's	no.	468	427	5,555	7,254
Suits - Men's - 3 piece	no.	154	220	2,233	3,261
- 2 piece	no.	1,269	1,620	17,855	18,772
Trousers - Men's - Sport	no.	4,754	3,392	39,813	42,207
- Work	no.	15,730	12,003	97,503	122,304
<u>Footwear</u>					
Boots and Shoes (all types)	pair	35,349	33,763	292,574	339,954
Sandals	pair	899	679	127,400	132,241
Slippers	pair	40,127	29,738	337,030	332,440
<u>Food</u>					
Bacon and Ham	'000 lb.	542	531	6,318	6,117
Butter	'000 lb.	283	329	14,566	14,071
Cheese	'000 lb.	117	45	1,653	2,168
Confectionery (not chocolate)	'000 lb.	257	243	2,999	3,099
Jams	'000 lb.	50	34	597	516
Margarine	'000 lb.	108	98	987	986
Sauce - Tomato	pint	35,322	36,370	634,713	513,906
<u>Miscellaneous</u>					
Acids - Acetic	cwt.	316	615	5,144	3,429
- Hydrochloric	cwt.	116	99	1,216	1,113
- Nitric	cwt.	26	8	268	152
- Sulphuric	ton	15,309	15,813	151,373	135,734
Cycles, Pedal	no.	498	515	5,957	6,929
Gas Produced	million cu. ft.	119	115	1,207	1,194
Mattresses - Inner Spring	no.	1,864	1,652	18,912	18,018
- Woven Wire	no.	3,761	3,963	26,075	29,118
- Soft filled	no.	2,967	3,383	34,086	35,233
Motor Vehicle Bodies -					
Truck Trays	no.	45	79	613	903
Utilities (all types)	no.	1	26	157	296
Trailers (all types)	no.	13	32	191	201
Perambulators	no.	27	59	556	650

(a) March figures. April not available.

(b) Nine months ended March.

